RULES

OF THE

LEAGUE

OF

SOCIAL PROGRESS.

Established December 18, 1848.

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LEAGUE OF SOCIAL PROGRESS.

The "League of Social Progress" has been called into being by the necessities of the times. Civilization, based on competition and isolation of interests, has reached its limits.

The progress of civilisation, based on co-operation, with mutual interests and universal brotherhood for its aim, must commence.

All attempts by violence, either to advance or retard civilisation in its natural progress, only beget disorder and anarchy.

Human advancement, to be permanent, must be made in peace.

Peaceable Social Progress can only proceed from general enlightenment relative to the principles of true social science.

To give such enlightenment as its means will permit, is the object of the "League of Social Progress."

OBJECTS:

The "League of Social Progress" aims ultimately at the establishment of a true social equality; and immediately at the nearest approximation thereto that the circumstances of society will permit, by urging on public attention the necessity of establishing home colonies, uniting agricultural, manufacturing, and educational pursuits, so that the enforced idleness of pauperism and the unwilling ignorance of poverty may give place to active and profitable industry, and intellectual and moral progress.

That, for the promotion of these objects, the action of the League shall be two-fold.

1st, By the extensive distribution of tracts, by which the utility and practicability of home colonization shall be explained in detail, and all information needed for the fullest understanding of the subject shall be given; and also such other information as may be found necessary for exposing the injustice of present society, and elucidating the ultimate designs of the League.

2nd, By public meetings, and lecturers, whose duty it shall be, in accordance with the direction of the Central Committee, to visit the manufacturing and agricultural districts for the purpose of explaining to the people the objects of the Society, and seeking their co-operation in carrying them to a successful issue.

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3rd, By taking advantage of every reasonable and fitting opportunity to impress on the Legislature, by memorials, petitions, and otherwise, the necessity of a comprehensive system of social reform based on the foregoing principles.

4th, By giving, from time to time, the countenance and encouragement of the League to well considered voluntary schemes of co-operation initiated by parties desirous of improving their social and moral condition, through associated arrangements for the production and distribution of wealth.

In order to carry out the intentions of the "League," the following rules and regulations have been agreed to:—

I.

That the subscription to the fund thereof shall not be less than one shilling per quarter for a member, but any amount beyond that, in the shape of donations, will be received.

II.

That the whole affairs of the society shall be under the management of a committee, to be called the "Central Committee," composed of a chairman, treasurer, secretary, and nine other members, resident in London, and one in each district where the society may have business to transact.

III.

That the district members of the committee, in the first instance, shall be nominated by the London members of the central committee, but afterwards they shall be named by the subscribers of the district or town in which they reside, at regular quarterly meetings of the subscribers, held for that and other local business.

IV.

The duties of the district members, as aforesaid, shall be to conduct the financial affairs of the localities in which they reside, and to act as the medium of communication between the subscribers and that portion of the central committee resident in London, whose duty it will be to manage the disbursement of the funds for the objects set forth in the preamble.

V.

That each district shall, through its accredited resident member of the committee, cause all subscriptions and donations to be forwarded at least once a month to the secretary in London, who shall acknowledge the receipt in such a manner as the central committee may direct.

VI.

That as soon as the present organisation is fully in a working condition, and the feeling of the country is ascertained on the subject, the sense of the subscribers, as to what further modifications or alterations may be deemed necessary to give greater efficiency to the scheme, shall be taken, through their representatives, at a general congress specially convened. The time and place of meeting to be fixed by the central committee.

VII.

That a balance sheet of income and expenditure shall be forwarded to all the subscribers at stated intervals.

VIII.

That reports of progress will appear from time to time in the *Spirit of the Age.*

IX.

That Mr. James Corss be the Treasurer, and Mr. James Rigby be the Secretary of the League.

(Signed) JAMES CORSS. G. J. HOLYOAKE.
LLOYD JONES. R. BUCHANAN.
J. E. SMITH. HENRY A. IVORY.
H. HETHERINGTON. A. CAMPBELL.
G. A. FLEMING. JAMES RIGBY.
JACOB DIXON. WALTER COOPER.

Members of the Central Committee.

10, *Bolt Court, Fleet Street, London.*

An issue of Tracts will shortly be commenced, in the mean time the secretary is ready to communicate with districts for the organisation of sections, and the appointment of district members of the committee.

Any six members residing in a district may become a section of the League by forwarding their quarterly subscriptions to the central secretary, intimating at the same time whom they have nominated to act as the district agent on their behalf.

The present organisation is to be considered as only provisional; the desire of the originators of the League being shortly to convene a congress in order to digest a code of laws for permanent operations.

(Signed) JAMES RIGBY, Secretary.

All communications for the Secretary to be addressed 10, Bolt Court, Fleet Street, until more permanent arrangements are made.

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